

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 1154

## 91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE SMITH.

Pre-filed December 6, 2001, and 1000 copies ordered printed.

TED WEDEL, Chief Clerk

3278L.011

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### AN ACT

To repeal section 211.011, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the purpose of chapter 211, RSMo.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Section 211.011, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 211.011, to read as follows:

211.011. The purpose of this chapter is to facilitate the care, protection and discipline of children who come within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court **so as to provide balanced attention to the safety of the community, the imposition of accountability for offenses committed, and the development of children's skills and competencies that will enable children to become responsible and productive members of the community.** This chapter shall be liberally construed, therefore, to the end that each child coming within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court shall receive such care, guidance and control as will conduce to the child's welfare and the best interests of the state, and that when such child is removed from the control of his parents the court shall secure for him care as nearly as possible equivalent to that which should have been given him by them. The child welfare policy of this state is what is in the best interests of the child.